

same elevation as Lake Cowles, is icy cold and seems practically devoid of aquatic plant life.

POTENTILLA MONSPELIENSIS L. Found along the shore of Lower Basin Pond, 2460 feet.

EPILOBIUM ADENOCAULON Haussk. One specimen was found in the region intermediate between Lower and Upper Basin Ponds, 2460 feet.

OENOTHERA PUMILA L. Found along the shore of Lower Basin Pond, 2460 feet.

CIRCAEA ALPINA L. Growing rather abundantly in the shade of balsam at the edge of the grassy area at the head of Klondike Pond, 3440 feet. In bud upon July 22.

ANDROMEDA GLAUCOPHYLLA Link. Abundant in sphagnum on the wall above Klondike Pond, 3600 feet to 3900 feet. There are rather extensive boggy areas upon this gently sloping wall, characterized by such bog plants as *Vaccinium Oxycoccus*, *Drosera rotundifolia*, *Kalmia polifolia*, etc.

ASTER PUNICEUS L., var. *OLIGOCEPHALUS* Fernald. Found commonly in the grassy area at the head of Klondike Pond, 3440 feet. According to Professor Fernald, this plant is common in southern Labrador, Newfoundland, and the Gaspé Mts., and it also occurs in the White Mts. of New Hampshire. It has not been previously reported from Katahdin.

ASTER PUNICEUS L., var. *PERLONGUS* Fernald. Found along the trail between Chimney and Basin Ponds, not far from the latter. This, Professor Fernald informs me, is the first collection other than the original from Table Top Mt., Gaspé. It is therefore new to New England.

LEYDEN, MASSACHUSETTS.

AIRA SPICATA, LINN, AND THE APPLICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL RULES

OLIVER ATKINS FARWELL

IN *RHODORA* for October, 1929, Mr. K. K. Mackenzie, using the Vienna Code, Article 51 (2) and Article 56, argues that *Aira spicata* L., Sp. Pl. p. 64, is invalidated by *Aira spicata* L., l. c., p. 63, hence *Trisetum spicatum* (L.) Richter, based on the former, is also invalid.

Mr. A. S. Hitchcock, commenting in *RHODORA* for December, 1929, on the above paper by Mackenzie, argues under Article 50 of the International Rules, that the second *Aira spicata* L. was validated when Linn corrected, in an erratum, the first *Aira spicata* and changed it to *Aira Indica*, claiming that this makes the first *A. spicata* universally regarded as nonvalid.

The first *A. spicata* has been universally regarded as a synonym of *A. Indica*, and rightly so, but it cannot be regarded, under the International Rules, as universally nonvalid—quite the contrary. Being a synonym is not necessarily being nonvalid, and there is no article in the International Rules that would make one of these names nonvalid; the application of these rules is intended to apply to species *when found in their proper genera*. It was perfectly right for Linnaeus to correct one of these names, as long as both remained in the genus *Aira*. He went further and discarded both for new names. But when modern botanists remove them to their proper genera, they must revert to the use of the original specific names and the secondary or substitute names become synonyms.

In my estimation none of the rules for the rejection of a name under Section 7 can be applied in the present case, as under the International Rules there is no name to be rejected, each name being valid for its respective species (Article 48); also, Article 27 specifically says that the same specific name may be given in several genera. As *Aira spicata* on page 63 is not even congeneric with *A. spicata* on page 64, the specific name "spicata" *must be retained* (Article 48) for each species when removed to its proper genus, unless there is already in the genus to which it is removed a valid species under the same name (Article 53). If *Aira spicata* No. 1, and *Aira spicata* No. 2, were conspecific or congeneric, one of the names would have to go (Article 27) but since neither is the case, neither has to go, and *Trisetum spicatum* (L.) Richter, is correct. Also, the correction of the first *A. spicata* to *A. Indica*, at a later date, only makes the latter a mere synonym (Article 50, 51) (1), and therefore a name not to be admitted.

In so far as I am aware, there is no valid species of the specific name *spicatum* under *Panicum*, so that *Aira spicata* Linn, Sp. Pl., p. 63 (*A. Indica* Linn) when removed to its proper genus should become (Article 48) *Panicum spicatum* (Linn) Farwell, n. comb.

A very similar case is that of *Hedysarum rotundifolium* Vahl (1791) and *H. rotundifolium* Mx. (1803). Here we have two distinct species published under the same generic name by two different authors at different dates but under the same specific name. As neither of these species belongs in *Hedysarum*, are not conspecific nor even congeneric, they must be removed each to its proper genus, and (Article 48) each must retain its first specific name (*rotundifolium*), unless it falls foul of one or another of the impediments enumerated

in the International Rules. Michaux's species becomes *Desmodium rotundifolium* (Mx.) DC. Vahl's species is not so fortunate, for when transferred to *Indigofera*, it meets one of the impediments of the Rules. There is a valid species of the same name, *Indigofera rotundifolia* Lour. (1790), and hence (Article 53) *Hedysarum rotundifolium* Vahl must change its specific name when referred to its proper genus (*Indigofera*), probably to *I. prostrata* Roxb. (*I. echinata* Willd.). Both the species of Vahl and of Michaux, having been removed from *Hedysarum*, the way is left open for the use of the specific name *rotundifolium* for some genuine species of the genus. So we have the legitimate *Hedysarum rotundifolium* Boiss. et Noé (Article 50).

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY, PARKE, DAVIS & Co.,
DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

THE FLORA OF THE ELIZABETH ISLANDS,
MASSACHUSETTS

JOHN M. FOGG, JR.

(Continued from page 258)

ANACARDIACEAE

RHUS TYPHINA L. Occasional in sheltered hollows on hillsides. NAS: Northrop (o), 3479 (N); PEN: 1441 (P,W), 3409 (N,P).

R. GLABRA (L.) Gray. No material seen; reported by Mrs. Northrop from Nashawena.

R. GLABRA (L.) Gray, var. *BOREALIS* Britton. See Britton's Man. Fl. No. St. Can. 601 (1901). Forming a small grove along the Northwest Gutter at the west end of Uncatena. UNC: 2453 (P,M).

R. COPALLINA L. Open slopes and moist depressions. UNC: 3039 (N); PAS: 3793 (N,P); NAS: Northrop, Aug. 13, 1901 (Y).

R. VERNIX L. Swampy woods and thickets. NAU: 2485 (N,P); PAS: 3794 (N); NAS: Northrop (o).

R. TOXICODENDRON L. Thickets, copses and overgrown hollows. Extremely variable as to habit, leaf-shape and fruit. NON: 3345 (N,P,M); UNC: 3040 (N,P); PAS: 1785 (N,P); NAS: Northrop (o), 2352 (N); CUT: 2314 (N); PEN: Jordan (o).

AQUIFOLIACEAE

ILEX OPACA Ait. Occasional in sandy wooded areas. NAU: 2488 (P,M,C); NAS: Northrop (o), 3535 (N).

I. OPACA Ait., forma *SUBINTEGRA* Weatherby. RHODORA, xxiii. 118 (1921). Sandy woods with the last; rare. NAU: 2484 (N,P,W,M,C).